



IN THE DRAWINGS:

Figure 1 has been amended. Reference numeral 1 with a lead arrow has been added. Two additional reference numerals 45 (with lead lines) have been added, both on the left portion of the Figure. The lead arrow for the reference numeral 55 has been changed to a lead line. Another reference numeral 55 (with lead line) has been added to the right portion of the Figure. A reference numeral 15 (with lead line) has been added to the right portion of the Figure.

One replacement sheet is included with this response.

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated December 9, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 9, 2006. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Figure 1 has been amended. Reference numeral 1 with a lead arrow has been added. Two additional reference numerals 45 (with lead lines) have been added, both on the left portion of the Figure. The lead arrow for the reference numeral 55 has been changed to a lead line. Another reference numeral 55 (with lead line) has been added to the right portion of the Figure. A reference numeral 15 (with lead line) has been added to the right portion of the Figure. One replacement sheet is included with this response.

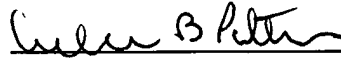
Claims 11, 12, and 16-35 remain pending in the application after entry of this response. Claims 11, 12, 16, and 17 have been amended. No new matter has been added by the amendments or new claims.

Claims 11, 12, and 16-35 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph for not providing a structural cooperative relationship between the elements. Claims 11, 12, 16, and 17 have been amended to overcome the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure than the primary references cited in the Office Action. Therefore, Applicant believes that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed. Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



William B. Patterson
Registration No. 34,102
PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Attorney for Applicant(s)